

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS NAVAJO AREA OFFICE WINDOW ROCK, ARIZONA 86515

MAY 1 & 1980

IN REPLY REPER TO:

ARPM/Minerals

U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY MAY 1 3 15:00 HERQUE, NEW MEXICO

#### Memorandum

To:

Area Mining Supervisor, Conservation Division

U. S. Geological Survey, Albuquerque, New Mexico

Assistant

From:

Area Director

Subject: Proposed Interim Mining Plan and Original Exploration Plan

on Navajo Allotted Mining Lease No. NOO-C-14-20-8396

We have reviewed the subject plans and submit the following comments for your information and consideration for implementation into the proposed plans.

## Exploration Plan

Paragraph 2 - What is proposed for ventilation in the 1200 Hawlage Drift and its crosscuts since no surface disturbances are proposed?

Paragraph 3 - Archeological Clearance shall be required for all of the SW2 of Section 18, T. 13 N., R. 10 W., prior to the commencement of the described exploration operation. The Navajo Area Archeologist in the Environmental Quality Office at Window Rock shall be kept advised of all archeological surveys, reports and any necessary mitigating actions during the duration of this project.

Paragraph 17 - Recontouring and revegetation shall include all access roads and other surface disturbances resulting from the exploration operation.

### Addendum to Exploration Plan

#### 6. Endangered Species

Endangered species (Flora or Fauna) are known to inhabit the area. A list of Flora and Fauna in the area should be requested from U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Albuquerque. If there is any indication of endangered species, then a Section 7 Consultation must be considered.

## Interim Mining Plan

- 2.7 Archeological studies should be coordinated with Quality Office, Window Rock.
- 6.3 See paragraph 6 comment under Addendum to Exploration Plan.
- 12. Health and Safety Measures

This section needs to be expanded and the following actions discussed in detail.

Ground Control
Safety and Health Training and Inspections
Hazard Training
Provisions for Ventilation and Dust Control
Fire Control
Havlage Safety
Emergency Escapeways and Procedures

Sel & Launy

CORRESPONDENCE WITH BIA

APPENDIX C



## GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

P. O. Box 26124 Albuquerque, New Mexico 87125

April 4, 1980

Memorandum

To:

Geologist, Resource Evaluation, SCR

From:

Mining Engineer, Albuquerque District, SCR

Subject:

Todilto Exploration and Development Corporation's Proposed Exploration and Interim Mining Plans for the SW/4, Section 18, T. 13 N., R. 10 W., N.M.P.M., McKinley County, New Mexico

Please review the enclosed copies of the subject plans, and return them with your report on the protection of any mineral resources involved.

Dale C. Jones Mining Engineer

Enclosures



GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Conservation Division

P.O. Box 26124

Albuquerque, New Mexico 87125

April 25, 1980



TO: Dale C. Jones, Mining Engineer, Albuquerque, New Mexico

THROUGH: Acting Deputy Conservation Manager for Resource

Evaluation, Roswell, New Mexico

FROM: Geologist, Resource Evaluation, Albuquerque, New Mexico

SUBJECT: Review of Todilto Exploration and Development

Corporation's Proposed Uranium Exploration and

Interim Mining Plans for Vandever Lease NOO-C-14-20-8396

Todilto Exploration and Development Corporation's proposed exploration plan for the Vandever lease located in the SW% of section 18, T.13N., R.10W., NMPM, McKinley County, New Mexico, is to drill a minimum of 160 exploration drill holes to locate uranium ores in the Todilto Limestone. If warranted, an additional 1,000 fill-in holes on 25 foot centers will be drilled. The depth of the exploration drill holes will be between 150 and 180 feet, becoming somewhat shallower to the south, and much deeper beneath the slope of Haystack Mountain to the north.

This area is not considered as prospectively valuable for geothermal, potash, or coal resources. The uppermost formation exposed in this area, the Dakota Sandstone, is stratigraphically below any potential economical coal-bearing formations. It is, therefore, unlikely that any conflict will develop between uranium mining and coal or any other mineral interests.

Although T.13N., R.10W. is classified as prospectively valuable for oil and gas resources, there has been little oil and gas exploration and no successful completions in this or adjacent townships. There are no oil or gas well locations within the subject township. The nearest petroleum test was in the NW\(\frac{1}{2}\)NW\(\frac{1}{2}\) section 26, T.14N., R.11W., drilled to 240 feet by George Senutovitch, and abandoned on October 12, 1961. In the NW\(\frac{1}{2}\)NW\(\frac{1}{2}\) of section 14, T.14N., R.11W., Stella Dysart's Federal No. 14-1 was drilled to a depth of 4786 feet in the Pennsylvanian. This test, too, was



unsuccessful and was abandoned on June 18, 1959. Superior Oil Company's San Mateo No. 1-14 located in the NW\s\ SW\ of section 14, T.14N., R.8W., was drilled to a total depth of 6253' to Precambrian basement without any show of oil or gas and was subsequently abandoned on February 28, 1954. In view of these unsuccessful attempts, it is doubtful that any conflict will arise with oil and gas interests.

The placement of drilling equipment in arroyos may constitute a potential geologic hazard during the summer months from possible flash flooding associated with intense thunderstorms. Care should also be taken in the construction of the proposed drilling roads on the slope of Haystack Mountain so as not to create conditions leading to rockfall, landslides, or road-bank washouts during storm runoff.

The Todilto Exploration and Development Corporation also submitted an interim mining plan along with the exploration plan. Their present operations are located in the SE% of section 13, T.13N., R.11W. The mining plan is to expand existing underground operations due east into the Vandever lease to extract ore from the Todilto Limestone that is shown to exist from their present operations. In view of the fact that this proposed expansion of their haulageway will be beneath an existing structure, the exact depth to the ore from the ground surface and probable thickness of the orebody to be mined should be evaluated to assess the possibility of subsidence and subsequent damage to the structure.

The problem of contamination of groundwater was also addressed in both proposals. It is unlikely that any problems will be encountered at such shallow depths. However, this may not be true in the northern part of the SW½ of section 18 where the depths to the ore will be much greater. In section 29, T.13N., R.9W., where mining is carried out to depths of 450 feet, as much as 350 gpm of water must be pumped out of the Todilto to permit mining.

The proposed exploration and interim mining plans submitted by the Todilto Exploration and Development Corporation presented an adequate discussion of the geology and potential geologic hazards of the area. Their past mining and drilling operations in this area have never encountered groundwater nor caused any surface disturbance due to underground caving.

> Martha Moore Geologist

Enclosures



### GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Water Resources Division P.O. Box 26659 Albuquerque, NM 87125

April 10, 1980

#### MEMORANDUM:

To:

Mining Engineer, Albuquerque District, SCR

From:

District Chief, WRD, CD, Albuquerque

Subject:

Todilto Exploration and Development Corporation's Proposed Exploration and Interim Mining Plans for the SW/4, Section T.13 N., R.10 W., N.M.P.M., McKinley County, New Mexico

This is in response to a request by Conservation Division of the U.S. Geological Survey to review the subject plans and report on protection of water resources involved.

The subject plans as stated show no threat to water resources in the area. No ground water should be encountered. Should ground water be encountered adequate protection of this resource are outlined in the plans.

A well in section 19 is noted in the Addendum to Exploration Plan, paragraph 5.2. The plan states there are no other known wells in the vicinity.

Navjo Tribe records on file at the Water Resources Division show a well located in section 18 and numbered 16T-521. It is 414 feet deep and completed in the Entrada. These records also describe a well located "one mile SE of Haystack Mountain." This well may be in section 19. It is numbered 16T-551 and is 1083 feet deep.

Elizabeth Padgett

Hydrologist

For:

James F. Daniel

Distract Chief



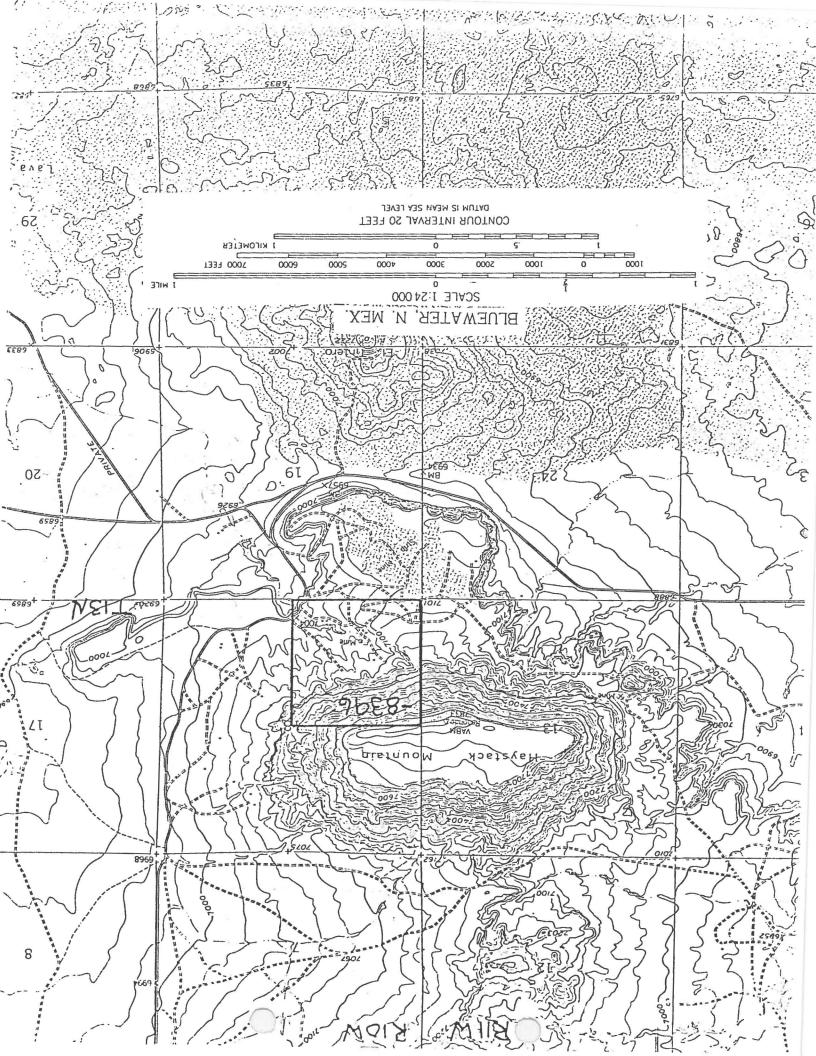
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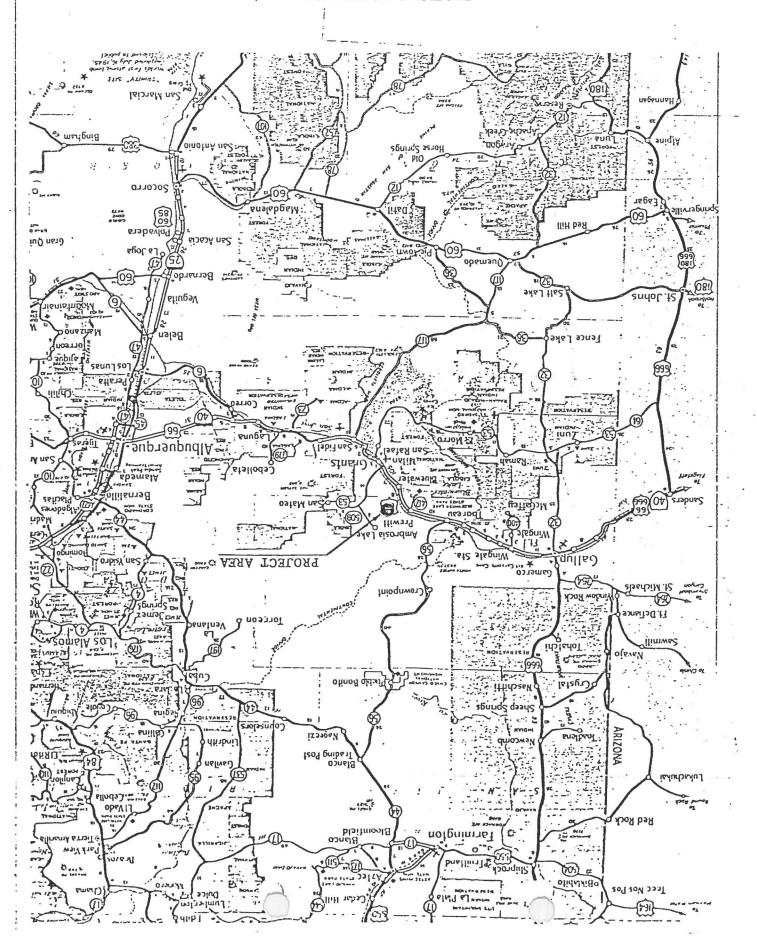
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Age	Formation	บกี่เร	Lithology	Columnar Section
	Summer- ville formation	•	Reddish - brown sondstone, mossive to thin bedded, fine, grained, well sorted, fluviatile.	
. 0 -		intertonguing zone	Pale grayish-green mudstone  Light gray siltstone and sand- stone with limestone lenticules; sandstone is fine-grained, massive, and calcareous; limestone is light and medium gray, massive, and very coarse-grained.	
RASS	Todilto	"crinkly" (recrystallized) zone	Mottled medium and dark gray limestone; thin crenulated bed-ding highly recrystallized coarsegrained, local silty lenses.	
٦ ٦			Thick-bedded gray limestone	
4		platy zone	Light to medium gray, alternating thick and thin bedded, very fine-grained dense limestone.  Sandy Ilmestone.	
	Entroda sondstone		Reddish-brown sandstone, fine-to medium-grained, well sorted; uppermost five feet bleached white; ealian cross bedding.	

-7 feet -0 April 1956 RME - 120

Stratigraphy of the Toditto limestone and portions of adjacent formations in the vicinity of Haystack Butte, Mc Kinley County, New Mexico





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G.	LAND	USES

242	General: This project will only take about twenty-three acres out of grazing use for	Exploration Plan .
	a relatively small amount of time (three years).  2. Affected Floodplains and/or Wetlands: Project not in floodplain and/or wetland areas	
	TIOOGPIAIN AND/OF WELLAND AFEAS	Exploration Plan
н. ј	AESTHETICS: The project will not permanently change the aesthetics of the project area	
		Personal knowledge
1.	SOCIO-ECONOMICS: The people who will be employed to perform the exploration activities	. (
	already live and work in the area, therefore, there will be minimal socio-economic	4
	impacts	Personal knowledge
J. !	CULTURAL RESOURCES DETERMINATION	,
j	Based on the formal comments received fromNational Park Service	
,	on	
	subject to : if any undetected cultural material is found during operations, all works	
	must cease in the immediate areas, and the Office of Contract Archeology will be	National Park Service
<u></u>	contacted.  OTHER: Cumulative impacts: Uranium exploration drilling operations have minimal	
	cumulative impacts because reclamation and the abandonment are performed	,
	contemporaneously with drilling	Exploration Plan
L.	ADEQUACY OF RESTORATION PLANS: TEDCO's reclamation work to date has been satisfactory	Personal knowledge
•		• 1
		Exploration Plan

Ε.	MAT	ER	RESOL	<b>JRCES</b>
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			•
	1.	Hydrologic Character	•
		a. Surface Waters: This project will have no effection surface water.	
		b. Ground Waters: This project will have no effect on ground water.	Exploration Plan Water Resources Division
		1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1	Exploration Plan
	2.	Water Quality	Water Resources Division
		a. Surface Waters: This project will have no effect on surface water quality.	
	1		Exploration Plan Water Resources Division
·	i	Ground Waters: This project will have no effect on groundwater quality.	٠.
			Exploration Plan
	.FLC	PRA AND FAUNA	Water Resources Division
	1.	Endangered and Threatened Species Determination	
		Based on theinformalcomments received fromFish and Wildlife Service	
		on April 25, 1980 , we determine that there would be no effect on listed endangered	
		and threatened species and/or their critical habitat.	Fish and Wildlife Service
		Flora: Twenty-three acres will be disturbed by this project. Any effects on the	
•		flora will only be temporary.	Fish and Wildlife Service
	3.	Fauna: This project will not effect any special nearby environmental conditions	Exploration Plan
ng.		relevant to fauna.	Fish and Wildlife Service
		and the state of t	

nvironmental Con:	siderations of the Propos	sed Action	. EA No. A-80-1
<u>ARAMETER</u>			INFORMATION SOURCE(S)
· GEOLOGY	•		
1. Other Loc	al Mineral Resources to	be Profected: No other mineral r	esource will be Memo from Area
affecte	d.		. Geologist dated 4-25-80
2. <u>Hazards</u>	ix .	*	
a. Land	Stability: Project will	not effect land stability.	Memo from Area Geologis
b. Subsi	dence: No subsidence ha	azard due to nature of project.	dated 4-25-80  Memo from Area Geologis  dated 4-25-80
c. Seism	icity: No seismic hazar	rd due to nature of project.	Memo from Area Geologis
	Pressure Zones/Blowout P		
SOLLS		Aq.	dated 4-25-80
1. Soil Char	acter: Drilling operat	ions will improve soil character	istics due to the
reclama	tion that will be perfo	rmed.	Exploration Plan
2. Eroslon/S	edimentation: Construc	tion of two roads could increase	erosion, but
		the roads will minimize this pro	
. AIR QUALITY:	The lack of any sizeab	le contributary source makes air	pollution a
minimal ac	verse effect.		
	9	*	EA - TEDCO - 5681
NOISE LEVELS:	Noise level would be	slightly elevated, but this is o	only temporary in
naturo and	will only have minimal	effect on the local inhabitants	. Navajo - Exxon EIS

## P. O. Box 26124 Albuquerque, New Hexico 87125

May 21, 1980

#### Memorandum

To: Area Director, Navajo Area Office, BIA

From: Mining Engineer, Albuquerque District, USGS, SCR

Subject: Proposed Original Exploration Plan for Navajo Allotted Mining Lease NOO-C-14-20-8396

Our response to your memorandum of May 13, 1980, regarding your comments on the subject exploration plan is as follows:

### Exploration Plan

- Paragraph 2 This aspect has been dropped from the exploration plan and has been submitted as the interim mining plan.
- Paragraph 3 See Addendum to Exploration Plan, Section 1. This survey has already been made and submitted to the National Park Service.
- Paragraph 17 This is covered on page 3 of the exploration plan, and will be emphasized in the approval letter. To date, TEDCO has done a good job of reclaiming their drill sites.

## Addendum to Exploration Plan .

## Endangered Species:

An informal endangered species consultation has been provided for this project by the Fish and Wildlife Service. They state that no threatened or endangered species are present in this quarter section.

I hope this satisfactorily answers your concerns. If no, please do not hesitate to contact me; if so, please send your concurrence for this project as soon as possible.

(ORIG. SGD.) DAYID R. SITZLFR
David R. Sitzler

cc: Exploration File Chrono

DRSitzler:ab: 05-21-80



GEOLOGICAL SURVEY P. O. Box 26124 Albuquerque, New Mexico 87125

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May 21, 1980

#### Memorandum

To:

Area Director, Navajo Area Office, BIA

From:

Mining Engineer, Albuquerque District, USGS, SCR

Subject: Proposed Original Exploration Plan for Navajo Allotted

Mining Lease NOO-C-14-20-8396

Our response to your memorandum of May 13, 1980, regarding your comments on the subject exploration plan is as follows:

## Exploration Plan

- Paragraph 2 This aspect has been dropped from the exploration plan and has been submitted as the interim mining plan.
- Paragraph 3 See Addendum to Exploration Plan, Section This survey has already been made and submitted to the National Park Service.
- Paragraph 17 This is covered on page 3 of the exploration plan, and will be emphasized in the approval letter. To date, TEDCO has done a good job of reclaiming their drill sites.

### Addendum to Exploration Plan

### Endangered Species:

An informal endangered species consultation has been provided for this project by the Fish and Wildlife Service. They state that no threatened or endangered species are present in this quarter section.

I hope this satisfactorily answers your concerns. If no, please do not hesitate to contact me; if so, please send your concurrence for this project as soon as possible.

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MAY 22 1980

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GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
P. O. Box 26124
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87125

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May 27, 1980

#### Memorandum

To:

Area Director, Navajo Area Office, BIA

From:

Mining Engineer, Albuquerque District, USGS, SCR

Subject:

Proposed Interim Mining Plan for Navajo Allotted Mining

Lease NOO-C-14-20-8396 - Todilto Exploration and Development

Corporation —

Our responses to your memorandum of May 13, 1980, regarding your comments on the subject interim mining plan are as follow:

## Interim Mining Plan:

- 2.7: An archeological survey has been conducted, and clearance is being obtained from the National Park Service in Santa Fe, New Mexico.
- 6.3: An informal endangered species consultation has been obtained from the Fish and Wildlife Service in Phoenix, Arizona, and it states that no endangered species are present in the project area.
- 12: This information will be discussed in the environmental analysis which is being prepared on this project.

If this answers all the concerns that you have with this project, please send your concurrence as soon as possible.

David R. Sitzler

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MAY 28 1980

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## INSPECTION REPORT

INSPECTOR(S) David R. Sitzler, Mining Engr., USGS DATE June 3, 1980
PARTICIPANT(S) None.
LESSEE/ALLOTTEE Todilto Exploration and Devel. OPERATOR N/A  Corp.  LOCATION SW/4, Sec. 18, T. 13 N., R. 10 W., N.M.P.M., NOO-C-14-20-8396
LUCATION 5474, Sec. 15, 1. 15 N., R. 10 W., N.M.P.M., NOO-C-14-20-8396
MINERAL Uranium OPN PRODUCTION CHECKED
ACTIVITY None.
ENVIRONMENT This lease is located on the southeast side of Haystack Mountain.
Vegetation consists of various grasses, Junipers, Pinyons, and minor cactus. The
climate is semi-arid, with annual precipitation of about 12 inches. The land is
used locally by the owners for grazing. SAFETY N/A
REMARKS This field inspection was conducted for the usual environmental analysis
which is being prepared on TEDCO's original exploration plan for this lease.
ORDERS ISSUED/RECOMMENDATIONS None.
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cc: Files

Reston (Thru Denver) Area Dir., Navajo Area Office, BIA Field File - Sitzler DMC, Mining, SCR

OFFICIAL FORM NO. 19
MAY 1992 EDITION
GSA FFMR (4) CFR) 101-11.8

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

## Memorandum

TO : Mining Engineer, Albuquerque District, SCR

DATE: JUN 5 1980

FROM : Navajo Area Director

SUBJECT: Proposed Original Exploration Plan - Todilto Exploration and Development

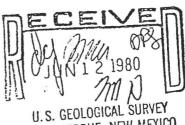
Corporation, Navajo Allotted Mining Lease NOO-C-14-20-8369

In response to your memorandum of May 21, 1980, regarding the subject

exploration plan, we have reviewed your responses to our comments and

herewith concur in the Proposed Original Exploration Plan.

pland Alson



U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO



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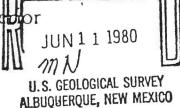


IN REPLY REFER TO: H24 (SWR) PS

## United States Department of the Intelligence

## NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

SOUTHWEST REGION P.O. Box 728 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501



JUN 06 1980

Mr. Timothy Pearson Todilto Exploration and Development Corporation 3810 Academy Parkway South, NE Albuquerque, New Mexico 87109

Conditional Archeological Clearance; 157 Drill Locations and Associated Accesses, Section 18, T13N, R10W, McKinley County, New Mexico OCA 80-134

Dear Mr. Pearson:

Our office has received and reviewed an archeological survey report by Mr. Stephen Lent, Archeologist with the Office of Contract Archeology, of the SW1, Section 18, Tl3N, RlOW, N.M.P.M., which was surveyed on April 7 and 8, 1980.

The survey revealed archeological sites and "localities" at the following locations:

	Site			Lo	cation	<u>1</u>	
	OCA: TOD:		Sec	. 18	, T131	N, RIOW	
1.	PII - PIII Artifact Scatter			SEł,	SWł,	NW <del>1</del>	
2.	Navajo Complex	2		SWł,	NW⅓,	SW <del>1</del>	
3.	Poss. Prehistoric Lithic Scatter			SE¼,	NW¼,	SW#	
4.	PII - PIII Scatter & Alignments			NWł,	NW¼,	SE‡	
5.	Navajo Complex			NE¼,	SW¼,	SW1	
6.	Navajo Complex			SEŁ,	NEł,	SW14	
7.	Navajo Sweathouse	0.0		NEł,	SW¼,	SW1	
8.	Navajo Complex			SEŁ,	SW¼,	SW#	

JUN 26 1980

AREA E REAL PROPERTY INC.

## Localities

1.	Lithic Scatter		SWł,	SEŁ,	NW4
2.	Hearth		SWł,	SWł,	NW‡
3.	Corral		SEŁ,	NW¼,	SW‡
4.	Lithic Scatter		SWł,	NEł,	SW4
5.	Poss. Lambing Pen		SWł,	NEł,	SW4
6.	Abandoned Mine Site		NEŁ,	SWł,	SW1

In addition, nine isolated occurrences were recorded throughout the survey area.

Your office has submitted to us an exploration plan and maps indicating 157 proposed drilling areas and associated access roads. In a telephone conversation with us on May 29, 1980, you indicated the area of disturbance for each drill hole would be approximately 1/10 of an acre (approximately 66' x 66'). The addendum to the exploration plan specifies access road widths will be 16 feet. Two major roadways are proposed across the northern portion of the SW1, Section 18, and are indicated on Map D-14.

Provided that all ground breaking activity take place within the specified areas, we feel the project will have no impact on cultural material. Therefore, archeological clearance is granted for the 157 proposed drilling locations, the two proposed roadways, and the associated drill access roads described herein and indicated on Map D-14 (as revised 5/28/80).

Should any previously unrecorded and/or previously undetected cultural material be discovered during construction operations, all work must cease in the immediate area of the exposed resources. Archeologists from this office and the Office of Contract Archeology should then be notified to arrange an on-site inspection to determine the significance and disposition of the archeological remains.

It is the responsibility of project sponsors to notify subcontractors of the boundaries of the archeological clearance and stipulations under which clearance is granted.

If you have any questions concerning this clearance, please contact Bruce Panowski, Archeologist with this office. He can be reached at (505) 988-6561.

Sincerely yours

George G. West

Supervisory Archeologist, Branch of Indian Cultural Resources

## Enclosures

cc:

BIA, Navajo Area Office, Window Rock, AZ (2)
Dr. David Doyel, Cultural Resource
Management Program, Window Rock, AZ
U.S.G.S., Albuquerque, NM
S.H.P.O., New Mexico
Dr. Joseph Winter, OCA, Albuquerque, NM

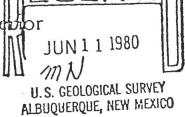


IN REPLY REFER TO: H24 (SWR) PS

## United States Department of the Interpor

## NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

SOUTHWEST REGION
P.O. Box 728
Sania Fe, New Mexico 87501



JUN 06 1980

Mr. Timothy Pearson
Todilto Exploration and
Development Corporation
3810 Academy Parkway South, NE
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87109

RE: Conditional Archeological Clearance; 157 Drill Locations and Associated Accesses, Section 18, T13N, R10W, McKinley County, New Mexico OCA 80-134

Dear Mr. Pearson:

Our office has received and reviewed an archeological survey report by Mr. Stephen Lent, Archeologist with the Office of Contract Archeology, of the SW<sup>1</sup><sub>4</sub>, Section 18, Tl3N, RlOW, N.M.P.M., which was surveyed on April 7 and 8, 1980.

The survey revealed archeological sites and "localities" at the following locations:

	Site		Loc	cation	<u>1</u>
	OCA: TOD:	Sec	. 18	, T131	N, RIOW
1.	PII - PIII Artifact Scatter		SEł,	SW¼,	NW <del>1</del>
2.	Navajo Complex		SWł,	NW⅓,	SW#
3.	Poss. Prehistoric Lithic Scatter		SEł,	$NW_{4}^{1}$ ,	SW1
4.	PII - PIII Scatter & Alignments	i i	NWł,	NW4,	SE#
5.	Navajo Complex		NEł,	$SW^{\frac{1}{4}}$ ,	SW <del>1</del>
6.	Navajo Complex		SEŁ,	NEŁ,	SW#
7.	Navajo Sweathouse		NEł,	SWł,	SW#
8.	Navajo Complex		SEŁ,	SW¼,	SW1

YBCHEOTOGICAT CLEARANCE

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EA	No.	A-80-1

## United States Department of the Interior Geological Survey Originating Office and Address

## USUAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Date \_June 13, 1980

Operator Todilto I	Exploration and	Project or Well	Name and No.	
Develor	oment Corp.	.,	11	· · · ·
Location SW/4	Section 18	Township_	13 North Rang	ge <u>10 West</u>
County McKinley	State Ne	w Mexico Fi	eld/Unit	
Lesse No. NOO°C-14	-20-8369	Permit No.	(3.5)	
List Cial de l'access	ties Determine	2 1000		
Joint Field Inspec	Tion Date: Julie.	3, 1960	Deserred by	
Field Inspection Pa	articipants. Titl	es and	Prepared by:	
Organizations:	,,	A A	David R. Sit	zler.
		• • • • • •	Mining Engine	
David R. Sitzler,	Mining Engineer,	USGS .	3 , 3	
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			- 100 m	
	Related Envi	ronmental Docum	ents:	
	Environmental A	nalysis - Koppe	en Mining Const	ruction Corp
-	Section 6 Min	е		
_				and Development
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Corporation -	Exploration Pl	an for Lease N	NOO-C-14-20-5681
			*	
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EA NO. A-80-1

June 13, 1980

Date:

Description of the Proposed Action:

The proposed action consists of the approval of an original exploration program to explore for uranium ore bodies on land covered by one Navajo Allotted Mining Lease. The lease, NOO-C-14-20-8369, is located approximately 15 miles northwest of the Grants/Milan area in McKinley County, New Mexico. The land covered by Allotted Lease -8369, is in he Southwest Quarter, Section 18, Township 18 North, Range 10 West, N.M.P.M.

The proposed exploration plan was submitted by Todilto Exploration and Development Corporation (TEDCO) on April 1, 1980. The proposed action was submitted to the Navajo Area Office, Bureau of Indian Affairs on April 22, 1980, for their Their recommendations for the protection of the non-mineral resources and for the reclamation of the land surface are in Appendix C. No other action by other Federal or State agencies is pending.

Surface and mineral rights to this leased land belongs to Brown Vandever, who was allotted this land from the BIA. TEDCO has the mineral rights to the BLM land in the Northwest Quarter of Section 18, which are staked as the Tess 1 through 10 claims. The mineral rights to the Southeast Quarter, and the south half of the north half of Section 13, Township 13 North, Range 11 West, N.M.P.M. are owned by the Department of Energy and leased to TEDCO. The surface rights are reserved for use of the Navajo Nation by Public Order No. 2178. TEDCO additionally holds Navajo Allotted Mining Lease NOO-C-14-20-5681 on the north half of the north half of Section 13. TEDCO holds mineral rights to the north half of the Northwest Quarter of Section 19, Township 13 North, Range 10 North, and Southwest Quarter of Section 13, Township 13 North, Range 11 West, N.M.P.M., by lease from the Santa Fe Pacific Railroad Company.

This plan calls for the drilling of 165 holes. Each hole will be between 130 to 180 feet in depth, and will be bottomed in the Entrada Limestone.

## Alternatives to the Proposed Action:

### 1. Disapproving the Requested Action:

This alternative would prevent all of the environmental impacts. would also prevent the allottee from realizing any economic benefit of the uranium suspect to be present on his land.

## 2. Approving the Requested Action:

No other exploration method or modification of the proposed exploration plan would minimize or reduce the possible environmental impacts.

EA	NO.	1-08-A

Date: June 13, 1980

## Adverse Environmental Effects:

The only adverse environmental effect of this project would be the disturbance of a portion of the lease surface from the construction of access roads and drill sites, and the resultant disturbance of any accompanying vegetation. This environmental effect would only be temporary. It will be alleviated upon completion of reclamation activities.

### Recommended Approval Conditions:

TEDCO will follow the U. S. Geological Survey Drilling Requirements of May 10, 1979, as amended May 20, 1980.

## Controversial Issues and Conservation Division Responses:

The required posting of the public notice for the proposed project has resulted in no comments with opposing or conflicting views, nor evidence of controversy.

### Finding of No Significant Impact:

We have considered the proposed exploration plan in the preceeding pages of this Environmental Assessment, and find, based on the analysis of environmental considerations provided therein, no evidence to indicate that it will significantly impact the quality of the human environment (40 CFR 1508.27).

### Determination:

I determine that the proposed action does not constitute a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment in the sense of NEPA, Section 102(2)(C).

(Signature and Title of Approving Official) (Date)

### References:

Edwards, Gregory Alan, Environmental Analysis, Proposed Exploration Plan, Todilto Exploration and Development Corp., NOO-C-14-20-5681, June 21, 1976.

Final Environmental Impact Statement, Navajo-Exxon Uranium Development, November 16, 1976.

Sitzler, David R., Environmental Analysis - Koppen Mining Construction Corp., Section 6 Mine, September 28, 1978.



GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

P. O. Box 26124

Albuquerque, New Mexico 87125



June 23, 1980

Memorandum

Area Director, Navajo Area Office, BIA

From:

Mining Engineer, Albuquerque District, USGS, SCR

Subject: Original Exploration Plan for Navajo Allotted Mining Lease

NOO-C-14-20-8396, Todilto Exploration and Development Corp.

Enclosed for your files and those of the Superintendent, Eastern

Navajo Agency are two copies of the Environmental Analysis which

was prepared on this project, and our letter of approval.

Enclosures

## P. O. Box 26124 Albuquerque, New Mexico 87125

June 23, 1980

Mr. Timothy J. Pearson
Exploration Geologist
Todilto Exploration and Development Corp.
3810 Academy Parkway South, NE
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87109

Dear Mr. Pearson:

Your request to drill 165 holes on Navajo Allotted Lease NOO-C-14-20-8396 is approved pursuant to all the requirements and conditions set forth in the "U. S. Geological Survey's Uranium Exploration Drilling Requirements" as revised on May 20, 1980.

Enclosed are copies of form 9-331a (Sundry Notices and Reports on Wells) and form 9-375 (Prospecting Permit Report), that must be filled out and returned to this office upon completion of this drilling program.

Please notify this office prior to commencement of drilling

Sincerely,

(ORIG. SGD.) DAVID R. SITZLER David R. Sitzler Mining Engineer

#### Enclosures

cc: Area Dir., Navajo Area Office, BIA
Superintendent, Eastern Navajo Agency, BIA
File - Exploration Plan
Chrono

DRSitzler:ab: 06-23-80



### GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

P. O. Box 26124 Albuquerque, New Mexico 87125

June 25, 1980.

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Memorandum

To:

Area Director, Navajo Area Office, BIA

From:

Mining Engineer, Albuquerque District, USGS, SCR

Subject: Drill Site Variance for Todilto Exploration and Development

Corporation's Approved Exploration Plan on Navajo Allotted

Mining Lease NOO-C-14-20-8396

The captioned exploration plan was approved by this office on June 23, 1980, subject to the conditions and requirements set forth in the "U. S. Geological Survey's Uranium Exploration Drilling Requirements", revised May 20, 1980.

According to these requirements, no drill sites may be constructed within 250 feet of an occupied residence, sheep-camp, archeological site, etc., without written approval of the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the lessor.

In the approved exploration plan, TEDCO proposes to drill within this 250 foot limit. Before a variance can be given to TEDCO, we must have written approval from you. The lessor has already given his written approval to this variance (copy enclosed), and the National Park Service has issued archeological clearance for all the proposed drill sites.

It would be appreciated if you would send your written approval for this variance to this office as soon as possible.

David R. Sitzler

Enclosures

WUN 26 1980

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## SOUTHERN ROCK HOUNTAIN AREA - CARLSLAD, EXPLORATION EXAMINATION REPORT

Lease or Permit No. NOO-C-14(20-8396 Land Ownership Navajo Allotted
Lessec or Permittee Todilto Exploration and Development Corporation
Examiner Dale C. Jones, Mining Engineer Date of Examination July 24, 1980
Mineral & Geologic Target Uranium in Jurassic Todilto Limestone
Location SW/4, Sec. 18, T. 13 N., R. 10 W., N.M.P.M., McKinley County, NM
Active Exploration in Progress Inactive
Method of Prospecting Rotary drilling and downhole probing
Approved Prospecting Plan Being Followed: Yes 6/23/80 No
Type of Surface Disturbance Access trails and drill sites .
Restoration of Disturbed Surface None, exploration has just begun
Method of plugging drill holes: Bore holes temporarily plugged with wood plugs
Method of drill hole cuttings disposal: Will be placed in holes; excess cuttings will
be spread out on surface.
be spread out on sarrace.
Number of drill holes examined: Active Approximately 10
Abandoned.
Number of drill holes completed: Approximately 50
Number of drill holes planned for program: 165
Artesian flow Yes No X
Type of logs Typ: Gamma Ray
Type of logs run: Gamma Ray.
Number of core samples taken for analysis: None
Remoter of core semples taken for analysis.
Comments: Accompanied by Tim Pearson, TEDCO Geologist; exploration in progress: abandonment
. and reclamation probably will not occur until main exploration program has been completed;

cc: Area Dir, Navajo Area Office, BIA

DCM, Mining, SCR, ... Field File - Jones

no violations of lease terms or exploration plan were observed ..... JUL 29

> :Dale C: Jones July 28, 1980

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MANY 80 COM

Assistant Area Director/330

finish

Proposed Uranium Mining Lease on Navajo Allotment Nos. 077031 and 059387

Field Solicitor - Window Rock

Enclosed is a copy of the Acting Deputy Commissioner's memorandum dated November 2, 1979, concerning proposed leasing of two (2) allotments by negotiations.

Before we inform the landowners and the lease applicants, we need to determine if the lease negotiations are to be reviewed for environmental impact. We also need to determine if the negotiation and approval procedures would conflict with the latest lawsuit against Charles W. Duncan, et al., seeking to halt approval of mining and milling activities in Northwestern New Mexico.

These two (2) leases are located in the Haystack area near Prewitt, New Mexico, which were never the subject of any lawsuits. The same procedure used in the Mobil lease negotiation will follow in which we will meet with the landowners after the basic term and worked out with the lease applicants.

Your advice on this matter is requested.

Ted S. Kosnig

Enclosure

cc: /ARPM/Minerals Chrono 300 M/F

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330:TLYNCH:bjp:11/20/79p

# URANGESELLSCHAFT

U.S.A., Inc. **VOLKMAR JANICKE Chief Geologist** 



Mr. Thomas Lynch Area Real Property Management Officer Bureau of Indian Affairs U. S. Department of Interior Navajo Area Office Window Rock, AZ 86515

6000 East Evans Avenue Building 3, Suite 200 Denver, Colo. 80222 Telephone (303) 753-0411 Telex 45-951 UGD DVR

June 27, 1980 Ja/Ko

SUBJECT:

Dear Mr. Lynch:

Would you please forward a copy of each of the following to the undersigned:

- The Indian Allotted Lease forms approved in January of this year for use by Todilto Exploration and Development Company in connection with the allotment of Mr. Brown Vandever (lessor); and
- The Indian Allotted Lease forms recently approved for use by Teton/United Nuclear Corporation.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely yours,

The lessen.

RECEIVED

JÜL 1 1980

WILL FILL FULLY IL FALLE YOUR ARREST Homas Fruk Oven Pealty Office